

Message Text

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ACTION INR-10

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C O N F I D E N T I A L CAIRO 10683

FOR INR/RNA

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PDIP PLO EG
SUBJECT: PALESTINIAN REPRESENTATION IN EGYPT

REF: (A) STATE 91578, (B) 77 CAIRO 19528

1. THE PLO HAS BEEN REPRESENTED IN ONE FORM OR ANOTHER IN EGYPT SINCE ITS FOUNDING IN 1964. TODAY IT IS TREATED AS A REGULAR DIPLOMATIC MISSION AND LISTED IN THE MFA DIPLOMATIC LIST. IN NOVEMBER 1977 THE TWO PRINCIPAL REPRESENTATIVES OF THE PLO, GAMAL EL SURANNI AND REBHI AWAD, WERE EXPELLED BECAUSE OF PLO CRITICISM OF SADAT'S PEACE INITIATIVE (REF B). AT PRESENT, THE ACTING CHIEF PLO REPRESENTATIVE AND ITS ACTING REPRESENTATIVE TO THE ARAB LEAGUE IS SAID KAMAL, WHO SERVES ALSO AS ASSISTANT TO DIRECTOR GENERAL OF PLO POLITICAL DEPARTMENT FARUK QADDUMI. ALSO LISTED IN THE DIPLOMATIC LIST OF APRIL 1977 ARE AHMED ABBAS ABOU HASSEIN, IN CHARGE OF ADMINISTRATIVE AFFAIRS; HAROUN HACHEM RASHID, ASSISTANT TO THE DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE OF THE PLO; AND MOHAMED SOBEIH, DELEGATE TO AAPSO. (SOBEIH WAS ALSO ELECTED SEC GEN OF THE PALESTINE NATIONAL COUNCIL IN MARCH 1977.) PROMINENT PLO/EC MEMBER AHMAD SIDQI DAJANI IS PRESENTLY LIVING
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IN CAIRO AND IN CONTACT WITH GOE, BUT HE IS NOT ON THE DIPLOMATIC LIST. THE MAIN PLO OFFICE IS LOCATED AT 33 RUE EL NADA, DOKKI.

2. NONE OF THE COMPONENT ELEMENTS OF THE PLO ARE OFFICIALLY RECOGNIZED BY THE GOE. HOWEVER, FATAH, WHOSE SENIOR OFFICIAL WAS REBHI AWAD, HAS A SEPARATE OFFICE AT

20 ADLY STREET AND AN INFO OFFICE AT 17 JAWAD HUSNI STREET. WE DO NOT KNOW THE SIZE OF THE STAFF OF FATAH OR THE PLO. HOWEVER, ORGANIZATIONALLY PLO HAS SEPARATE STAFFS TO DEAL WITH THE GOE AND THE ARAB LEAGUE.

3. PLO REPRESENTATIVES ON THE DIPLOMATIC LIST ENJOY NORMAL DIPLOMATIC PRIVILEGES, BUT THE GOE IS KNOWN TO CLOSELY MONITOR THEIR ACTIVITIES. EILTS

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